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ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIred of by the Churchwardens and Sworn-men within the *Diocesse of Winchester, in the Visitation* of the reuerend Father in God, Thomas Bishop of Winton, in his first generall Visitation, holden:

In the nine and thirtieth yeare of the raigne of our most gracious soueraigne Lady, Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England, France and Ireland, defender of the Faith &c.

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The Churchwardens and their aſsistants are ſtraitly required to reade or heare all theſe articles read ouer vnto them, and diligently to conſider and enquire thereof betweene the time of the deliuery hereof vnto them, and the Viſitation, that they may come prepared at the Viſitation to deliuer their Billes and Anſweres in writing to euery of the ſaide Articles.

Articles to be enquired of by the Churchwardens and Sworne-men within the Diocesse of Winchester, and the truth thereof to be by them vpon their othes certainely presented to the Bishoppe or his Deputie, with perticular answer to euery Article.

Articles concerning the Clergie.

WHether your Common prayer be read by your Minister in your Churches or chappels plainly and reuerently vpon all Sundayes and Holydayes, and other dayes prescribed in such order as is set forth in the Booke of Common prayer authorized by the Lawes of this realme without any innouation or change of any parte therof at due and conuenient houres: And whether the holy Sacraments be likewise ministred reuerently in such manner as by the booke of common prayer is appointed?

2 Item, whether any parson, not being ordered at the least a Deacon, hath attempted to say common prayer openly in your Church or Chappell, or to solemnize matrimonie or administer the Sacrament of Baptisme?

3 Item, whether the Churchwardens haue permitted or doe suffer anie Curate or Minister to serue your Church before he be admitted and examined by the Ordinarie in writing, and doe shew his licence vnder seale vnto the Church-wardens? and whether anie Curate doe serue twoo Cures at one time, and in one

4 Item, whether your Minister do euery Sunday when there is no Sermon, reade distinctly and plainely some part of the Homilies prescribed and set foorth by the Queenes authoritie to bee read: and whether any Minister not admitted by the Ordinary, or by other lawfull authoritie, doe expound any scripture or matter of doctrine, and thereby omit and leaue off the reading of Homilies: or be there any in your parish that doe deprane or speake against the Homilies, and the vse of them in the church?

5 Item, whether your Minister do at the administration of the sacrament of the Lords supper, himselfe vse reuerently to kneele when himselfe receiueth it according to the Booke of Common prayer: and whether the Communicants themselues in like sore do humbly kneele vpon their knees at the time of the receiuing thereof; or whether he do administer it confusedly, to some kneeling, to some sitting, and to some standing.

6 Item, whether your Preacher in his prayer made in his sermon, whether it be at the beginning, middle, or end thereof, do vse or omit at any time the prayer for her Maiestie, with her whole title by the Queenes Inhunctions giuen her, as Queene of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. of all causes, and ouer all persons within her Maiesties Dominions, aswel ecclesiasticall as temporall, next and immediately vnder God supreame gouernor.

7 Item, whether any Lectures, Conuenticles, or priuat meetings, be read or vsed within your parishes, either publiquely in the Church, or priuately in the house, by any not licenced thereto by the Ordinary: Or whether any such Reader do teach any doctrine of Inouation to withdraw the people from due obedience to the Ordinances of the Church set foorth by publique authoritie, or to cause them to forbeare participating in prayer and Sacraments with our Church?

8 Item, how many sermons hath your parson or vicar preached in his owne Church within this yere past. And if your par-

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son or Vicar bee not a Preacher, how manie Sermons hath hee procured to be preached there in this yere past: and who hath preached them, and whether were they that did preach them licensed or no, and by whom?

9 Item, whether your Minister hath receiued to the holy Cōmunion, anie persons which bee not of his owne Parish, without testimonie from the Minister of the place where they dwell what they be, that it may appeare they be not persons excommunicate, or otherwise notorious offenders?

10 Item, whether your Minister doo euerie Sunday or Holiday openly in the Church call for, heare and instruct all the children, apprentices and seruants that bee of conuenient age within your Parish, or at the least so manie of them (by course) as the time will serue, and as he may well heare and instruct for one hower (at the least) before or after Euening Prayer; in the ten Cōmaundements, the Articles of the Beleefe, the Lordes Prayer, and the Sacraments, and diligently examine and teach them the Catechisme, as it is now allowed and set foorth in the Booke of Common Prayer: and whether (to that purpose) hee dooth take the names of them all, and by course call certaine of them (by name) euerie Sunday and Holiday to come to the teaching of this Catechisme: and if the Parents and Master be slacke in sending them, whether he hath called vpon the Churchwardens to present them?

11 Item, whether your parson Vicar or cureat, or other minister in your Church or Chappell, hath admitted to the holy Cōmunion anie open or notorious fornicator, adulterer or euill liuer, by whom publike offence is giuen, without due penance first done to the satisfaction of the Congregation, enioyned him by his Ordinarie.

12 Item, whether your Preachers or Ministers be peace-makers, and exhort their Parishioners to obedience towardes theyr Prince, and all other that be in authoritie, and to the gouernment

Ecclesiasticall now established, and to charitie and mutuall loue among themselues: whether they be diligent in visiting the sicke, and comforting them?

13 Item, whether anie person hath preached, declared, or spoken anie thing in derogation of the book of common praier, which is set forth by the Lawes of this Realme, dispraising or deprauing the same, or anie thing therin contained; or against the Preachers or Ministers of the Word and sacraments?

14 Item, whether your Ministers and church wardens doo keepe well their Registers of all Weddings, Burialls and christenings within your parish, according to the order of the Queens Maiesties Iniunctions; and whether the church-wardens haue yearely exhibited into the Bishops Registerie a true copie of that Booke?

15 Item, whether your Ministers doo keepe anie man or woman in their houses, suspected to be incontinent persons; or themselues be suspected or bee giuen to drunkennes, haunters of Tauernes, ale-houses, or suspected places, or otherwise suspected of anie notorious crime, or light disordered behauiour, or giue any euill example of life, or vse vnseemly apparell either in couloures, gards, or light fashions?

16 Item, whether for the retaining of the perambulation of the circuite of your Parish, the Minister, church-wardens and certaine of the substantiall men of the Parish, in the dayes of the Rogations, (commonly called Gang dayes) walke the accustomed bounds of your Parish: whether in the same they vse anie superstitious or popish ceremonie: but only meditate of Gods mercie, giue him thankes for blessing of the earth, as is by the law of the Church set downe?

17 Item, whether there be anie in your Parish that readeth anie priuate Lectures, or vseth exposition of the Scriptures in any priuate mans house whatsoeuer, contrarie to law: and whether anie

nie preach, and doo not at certaine times in the yeare minister the Sacraments in their owne persons, and in such Church where he readeth his Lecture?

18 Item, whether anie Parson Vicar or Minister hath procured himselfe to be admitted into sacred Orders by anie corrupting meanes of money, reward, gift, or promise of reward, or by anie Symoniacall compact hath procured his Benefice, directly or indirectly; or bee thereof by common fame suspected or defamed?

19 Item, whether your Minister doo refuse those women (being married) which doo come to the Church to giue thankes after Childe-birth, according to the Order set downe in the Booke of Common Prayer?

20 Item, whether your Minister haue married anie person, not being three seuerall Sundayes lawfully asked in their Parish Churches, according to the Booke of Common Praier; or not being sufficiently licensed thereunto?

21 Item, whether your Parsons and Vicars doo maintayne and keepe in due reparations their mansion houses and other edifices belonging to their Ecclesiasticall liuings, and not suffer them to fall into ruine and decay: and whether your Almeshouses, Hospitalls and Spittles be well and godlyed, according to the foundation and ancient Ordinances of the same: and whether ther be anie other placed in them than poore, impotent, and needie persons, that haue not wherewith or whereby to liue?

Articles.

Articles concerning the Church-wardens, and their Assistants.

1 Item, whether you haue in your Parish Churches and Chappells all things necessarie & requisite for Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments; especially the Book of Cōmon Praier with the new Kalender, two Psalters, the English Bible in the largest volume, the Table of the ten Commaundements, a conuenient Pulpet wel placed, a comely and decent Table standing on a frame, for the holy Communion, with a fayre linnen cloath to lay vppon the same, and some couering of silke, buckeram, or other such like, for the cleane keeping thereof, a faire and comely Communion cup of siluer, and a couer of siluer for the same, which may serue also for the Ministration of the Cōmunion bread, a decent large surplesse with sleeues, a sure cofer with two lockes and keyes for the keeping of the Register booke, and all other things necessarie, in and to the premisses?

2 Item, whether your churches and chappels with the chauncell be well and sufficiently repaired and kept without abuse of anie thing: and whether your church-yards be well fenced & cleanly kept; and if anie part thereof be in decaye, through whose default it is so: and whether anie strife hath growen amongst your neighbors, about pewes or seates in the church?

3 Item, whether your Font or Baptisteries be remoued from the place where they were wont to stand: or whether any persons (leauing the vse of them) doo christen or baptize in basons, or other prophane vessels, not accustomably vsed in the church before time.

4 Item, whether the Schoolmasters within your Parish, openly or priuately in anie mans house be of good and sincere Region life and conuersation, and be diligent in teaching and bringing vp of youth: and whether with their Schollers they doo resort orderly on Sundayes and Holidayes to church: and whether your

your Schoolmaisters doo receiue the holye Communion so oft as they ought to doo, and so manie of their schollers as be of sufficient age and capacitie to receiue: and whether they haue been examined allowed and licensed for Schoolmaisters by the Ordinarie or his officers in that behalfe.

5 Item, whether all houholders in your parish cause their children seruants and apprentises both mankind and womankind, (being aboue seuen yeres of age) which haue not learned the Catechisme, to come to the Church on Sundayes and Holidayes at the times appointed for catechizing, and there diligently and obediently to heare: and what be the names of those that do not cause their children seruantes and apprentises so to come to the church to be instructed and examined?

6 Item, whether doo anie work or keep anie shop or anie part of their shop open vpon the Sabaoth dayes, or vppon anie Holydayes (appointed by the lawes of the Realme to bee kept Holyday) or doo vse anie worke or labour vpon those dayes.

7 Item, whether you your selues, or the church-wardens in the yeares before, haue suffered anie vnmarried woman (being begotten with childe) to goe out of the parish before shee hath done penaunce: or anie man defamed of whoredome to depart vnpunished; and lastly of whose houses haue they gone away with child vnpunished.

8 Item, whether there bee anie in your parish which for anye cause whatsoeuer wilfully forbeare to come to church to publique praier, or to heare Gods word preached, pretending it vnlawfull to come to our Assemblies, as the Church of England now standeth; and how manie monthes they and euerie of them haue so absented themselues by the space of one yeare last past.

9 Item, whether such Recusants (or anie of them) as are by the statute confined to make their continuall resiaunce and abode within your parish haue wandered from place to place, or to anie

place beyond the limitation of the said Statute?

10 Item, whether any doo refuse to receiue the holy Communion at their owne ministers handes either because he is not a preacher, or because he duely obserueth the order of ministration, appointed by the Booke, and who they bee that doo goe from their owne Parish to receiue at anie other Ministers handes: and whether anie of your Parishioners (hauing a Preacher to their Minister) doo absent themselues from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preachers?

11 Item, whether the people of your parish (especially housholders, hauing not lawfull excuse to bee absent) doo faithfully & diligently indeuour themselues to resort with their children & seruants to their Parish Church or Chappell on Holidayes, & chiefly on the Sundayes, to Morning and Euening Prayer: and vpon reasonable let thereof, to some vsuall place where Common Prayer is vsed, and then and there abide orderly and soberlye during the time of Common Prayer, Homilies, Sermons & other Seruice of God there vsed, reuerently and deuoutly, giuing themselues to the hearing thereof, and who they be that negligently absent themselues, or come verie late to the Church, or vse any gaming or pastime abroad or in anie house, or sit in the street, churchyard, or in anie tauerne or alehouse vpon the Sabaoth or Holyday, in the time of Common Prayer, Sermon, or reading of the Homilyes, either before or after noone?

12 Item, whether there be within your Parish anie Iuye-keepers, Ale-wiues, Victuallers or Tiplers, that suffer or doo admit anie person or persons in their houses to eate, drinke, or play at cardes, tables, or such like games in the time of Common-praier or Sermon on the Sundayes or Holydayes: and whether anie Butchers or others that commonly vse to sell meate or other things, doo make sale in the time of Common Prayer, preaching or reading of Homilyes: and whether in anie Fayres or Common Markets (falling vpon the Sunday) there bee anie shewing of anie wares before Morning Prayer be done: and whether any

markets and selling of wares be vsed or suffered in anie Church-yards by common pack-men or pedlers going about, or anie such people either of your Parish, or not?

13 Item, whether the Church-wardens of the last yere haue giuen to the Parish a iust accompt of the Church goods & rentes that were committed to their charge, according to the custome that hath been afore time vsed: and what Church goods they or anie other haue sold, and to whom: and whether to the profite of your Church, or no; and what hath been done with the money thereof comming?

14 Item, whether your Minister and you the Church-wardens, or anie other in your Parish, haue in your Renestries made anie orders, or doo vse to call anie parties before you for any cause to be ordered by the Ecclesiasticall Lawes, and so doo vse a kinde of Presbiterie or censuring ouer your neighbours?

15 Item, whether anie of your parish (being of conuenient age) haue not receiued the holy communion thrice this last yere at the least, and namely at Easter last or thereabouts for once: and what their names are: or which (at their receiuing) haue not signified the same before to your parson, Vicar or curate, that he might conueniently examine them: and who haue refused to come to him to be examined?

16 Item, whether there be anie in your parish, that administer the goods of those that be dead without lawfull authoritie; or anie that suppresse the last Will of the dead; or anie Executors that haue not fulfilled their Testatours Will, especially in paying the Legacyes giuen to the church, or to other good and godly vses; as to the releife of pouertie, to helpeful Orphanes, poore Schollers, poore Maydens marriages, high Wayes, and such like: and by whom they are so detained?

17 Item, whether there bee any in your parish that hath or doth offend contrarie to the Statute made in the 37. yeare of the Raigne of King Henry the eight for the reformation of Vsurie, and reuiued by an Act made in the thirteenth yere of the Raign of the Queenes Maiestie that now is, taking aboue the rate of ten pounds for the lending of an hundred pounds by the yeare: and what be the names of such offendors?

18 Item, whether your Minister or any of the parish without the consent of the Ordinary caused any to do penaunce or be punished, either openly or otherwise for any crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes onely, and what be the names of the parties that haue beene so punished, and in what maner?

19 Item, whether there be amongst you any that vse Sorcerie or Witchcraft, punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, or that be suspected of the same: and whether any vse any charmes, or vnlawfull prayers: and whether any doe resort to any such for help and counsell, and what be the names both of such as vse it, and of such as resort vnto them for help?

20 Item, whether there be among you any blasphemer of the name of God, great or often swearers, aduulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, bawdes, or receiuers of incontinent persons, or harbourers of women with childe which be vnmarried, conueying or suffering them to goe away before they doe any penaunce, or make satisfaction to the congregation, or any that be vehemently suspected of any such faults, any drunkards, or ribaudes, or any that be malitious, contentious, or vncharitable persons, common slaunderers of their neighbors, railers, scolders, or sowers of discord betweene neighbors, and especially railers against Ministers, and against their marriage?

21 Item, whether there be any in these parts that haue maried within the degrees of affinitie or consanguinitie, by the lawes of God forbidden, or any that being diuorced or separated for the same, doe yet notwithstanding cohabite and keepe company still toge-

together, or any that being married without these degrees, haue vnlawfully forsaken their wiues or husbands and maried others: any man that hath two wiues, or woman that hath two husbands, any that being diuorced or separated asunder haue maried again, any that haue maried and contracted themselues without the consent of their Parents, Tutors, and Gouernors, any that haue married without banes thrice solemnly asked, any couples maried that liue not together, but slanderously liue apart.

22 Item, whether your Minister and church-wardens haue suffered anie Lord of misrule or Summer Lord or Ladies, or anie disguised persons, or May games, or anie Morice dancers at any time to come vnreuerently into the church or churchyard and there to dance or play, especially in the time of common praier, seruice, or sermon.

23 Item, whether any within your parishes doe resorte vnto barnes, fieldes, woods, or priuate houses for any extraordinary expositions of Scriptures, or conferences together, and so do (as it were) make a seuerall church or sect vnto themselues, or be drawers, or perswaders of others to any such schismaticall sects, and in whose houses, or in what places haue you heard of any such meetings?

24 Item, whether there be anie of your parish knowen or suspected to conceale or keep hidden in their house, anie Masse bookes or other Bookes of poperie & superstition, or anie chalices, copes, vestiments, or other like superstitious ornaments in their forme & fashion vndefaced, for some exercise of their superstition, as may bee suspected, if they may haue time or opportunitie thereto: or whether anie be knowen or suspected to receiue any such bookes or like trumperie from beyond the seas, and to disperse and carrie them abroad to others.

25 Item, whether any in your parish, married in any priuate houses since the last visitation, haue beene knowne or suspected to haue beene married by any popish priest, or in any other order than

is appointed by the Church of England.

26 Item, whether any children borne within your parish doe remaine vnbaptized, or be suspected to be baptized by any Popish priest, Seminarie, or Iesuite: or whether any Recusants liue together as man and wife, who are not knowen to be married according to the lawes of this realme?

27 Item, whether you know any notorious Recusant, who obstinately refuseth to be partaker with the Church of England in publique prayer and hearing of the word of God preached, being for his disobedience and contempt excommunicated and so dying excommunicate to be buried in christian buriall, not hauing before his death sought to be absolued.

Generally, what faults soeuer you know to be within your parishes not specified or mentioned in these Articles, and punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, you shal by vertue of your oath aforesaid duly and truly present them to your Ordinarie, that reformation may be had accordingly.

These subscribed Articles are specialy enioned and commanded by the said reuerend father to be from time to time obserued by the Minister & churchwardens of euery church.

1 THat henceforth the Churchwardens shall not permit anie Minister to serue the Cure of their Church vntill the Minister do first shew forth vnto the said Churchwardens his licence thereto, vnder the hand & seale of the said bishop of Winchester, or of his Chancellor vpon paine of contempt.

2 Item, that from henceforth they do not admit any Minister to preach in their Cures, but onely such as already be, or henceforth first shal be allowed thereto, vnder the hand or seale of the L. Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, or of the saide Bishoppe of Winchester.

3 Item, that henceforth a true and iust Record or Register

Booke

Booke be kept of all persons, baptized, married, and buried in euery parish and hamlet by the Minister and Churchwardens, and the said booke be safely kept in a sure coffer with three lockes and keyes prouided for that purpose according to publique order, viz. thereof one key to remaine with the minister, the other keyes with either of the churchwardens: And that euery Sunday after euening prayer the Minister and Churchwardens do record and write into that booke the names of all persons baptized, married, or buried in that church the weeke before, and that the Churchwardens do yeerely at the Visitation of the saide Bishop or his Chancellor deliuer vnto the Register a true copie of the saide yeerely notes.

4 Item, that at, or on this side the next Visitation, the Churchwardens do exhibite a copie of their church accompt, & of all stocks appertaining to the Church, and who do substract any part thereof from the Church.

5 Item, that the Churchwardens do vpon the Sabaoth daies diligently obserue the careless and negligent commers to diuine seruice, and after admonition giuen by the Minister and Churchwardens, doe quarterly or at the least at euery Visitation present the names of such negligent persons, and the seuerall daies of their absence, that thereupon they may be indicted at the next Sessions.

6 Item, that euery beneficed man, not being a Preacher alowed by publike authoritie, & the farmers of beneficed men not being resident, shall euery Visitation deliuer to the Register a note in writing of all Sermons preached in their Cures from one Visitation to another, subscribed with the Preachers hand: which notes the Register shal (after the Visitation ended) certifie vnto the said reuerend Father.

7 Item, if the church-wardens and side-men at this visitation or any other henceforth, shall wilfully or negligently omit to present any crime or offence worthy of presentment and reformation, whereof the Minister then or after may haue knowledge, that then the Minister shall giue aduertizement thereof to the said reuerend Father or his chancellor.

FINIS.